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FROM: PARIS

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1794, NOVEMBER 15, 4 PM

SENT DEPARTMENT 1794 REPEATED INFORMATION BERLIN 19
BONN 141 LONDON 334 MOSCOW 79

RE DEPTEL 1743; EMBTEL 1787.

1. AS INDICATED EMBTEL 1787 DARIDAN HAS TOLD US FR RPT ER, PREPARED ISSUE STRONG JOINT STATEMENT ON BERLIN SITUATION, SUBJECT TO GER ACQUIESCE. WORKING LEVEL AT FONOFF, HOWEVER, (LALOY, JURGENSEN, CONTINUES FEEL THAT, FROM TACTICAL POINT OF VIEW, PUBLIC TRIPARTITE STATEMENT WOULD PROBABLY BE INADVISABLE AT PRESENT JUNCTURE. THEY NOTE ALL THREE CAPITALS HAVE ALREADY TAKEN FIRM PUBLIC POSITION ON KHRUSHCHEV'S THREATS AND THEY ARE INCLINED BELIEVE THAT TRIPARTITE STATEMENT WOULD APPEAR REPITITIOUS AS WELL AS NEEDLESSLY PROVOCATIVE AT MOMENT WHEN CRISIS ATMOSPHERE APPEARS HAVE RECEDED SOMEWHAT. JURGENSEN EXPRESSED TO US YESTERDAY VIEW THAT, IF JOINT ACTION TO BE TAKEN VIS-A-VIS SOVS, IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE DO SO THROUGH CONFIDENTIAL, CONCERTED APPROACHES BY AMBS IN MOSCOW. HE ALSO THOUGHT IDEA OF PUBLIC TRIPARTITE STATEMENT COULD BE HELD IN ABEYANCE FOR POSSIBLE USE AT LATER TIME.

2. WITH REGARD TO POSSIBLE STATEMENT BY SECY OR PRESIDENT CONCERNING BERLIN, JURGENSEN FELT THIS WOULD BE EXCELLENT, BUT STATED EMPHASITICALLY FR WOULD APPRECIATE BEING CONSULTED IN ADVANCE RE SUCH STATEMENT. JURGENSEN POINTED OUT THAT DE GAULLE'S INTEREST IN TRIPARTITE CONSULTATION OBVIOUSLY MADE SUCH ACTION ADVISABLE.

3. RE POSSIBILITY OF BERLIN AIRLIFT, JURGENSEN SAID FR RECENTLY

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-2- 1794 NOVEMBER 15, 4 PM, FROM PARIS

FR RECENTLY RECEIVED REVISED PLANS FOR ALLIED AIRLIFT, WHICH AT FIRST GLANCE SEEMED SATISFACTORY TO FONOFF. HE NOTED "PRESSURE NOW ON" TO OBTAIN OFFICIAL FR GOVT APPROVAL THESE PLANS. JURGENSEN SAID THAT, ALTHOUGH WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR FR TO FIND VERY MANY TRANSPORT PLANES FOR BERLIN (BULK OF FR AIRCRAFT BEING TIED UP IN ALGERIA), FR WOULD WISH PARTICIPATE IN GREATER MEASURE THAN IN 1948 IF NEW AIRLIFT BECOMES NECESSARY.

4. FONOFF HAS SHOWN US INSTRUCTION TO FR PERMREP NAC FOR DISCUSSION IN NAC NOV 17 ON BERLIN. INSTRUCTIONS NOT RPT NOT YET APPROVED BY COUVE BUT ARE EXPECTED BE CLEARED WITHOUT DIFFICULTY. INSTRUCTIONS RECAPITULATE FR VIEWS OUTLINED IN FONOFF BACKGROUND STATEMENT (EMBTEL 1750) RE BASIS OF FR PRESENCE IN BERLIN, AND STRESS DESIRABILITY OF STRONGEST POSSIBLE UNITY ON BERLIN, NOT RPT NOT ONLY AMONG THREE POWERS DIRECTLY CONCERNED BUT ON PART ALL NATO MEMBERS. FR EXPECT THAT GERS AND US WILL TAKE LEAD IN NAC DISCUSSION, BUT FR REP IS INSTRUCTED GIVE THEM STRONG SUPPORT.

5. WORKING LEVEL OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED VIEW, ALSO REFLECTED IN INSTRUCTIONS TO FR NAC REP, THAT THERE IS "DIVISION OF LABOR" BETWEEN SOVS AND GDR RE BERLIN AND GER SITUATION. SOVS, ACCORDING THIS THEORY, ARE TO CONCENTRATE ON BERLIN AND QUADRIPARTITE STATUS, ETC., WHILE GDR REPS WILL CONCENTRATE ON OVERALL QUESTION, PEACE TREATY, AND SO ON.

FR BELIEVE THIS MAY BE EXPLANATION OF ALLEGED "DISCREPANCY" BETWEEN KHRUSHCHEV'S TOUGH LINE ON BERLIN AND FAILURE OF GROTEWOHL TO PRESS BERLIN QUESTION,

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